



Wisconsin Crop Progress

Compiled by the Wisconsin Field Office of
USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service

August 31, 2009

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Cool Temperatures Hindering Crop Development

Scattered rains across the state have helped corn and soybeans to progress, but have slowed down the drying of hay. Many growers reported that the cooler, damp temperatures have increased disease in several plants. Warmer temperatures are needed to help crops mature as an early frost could be detrimental.

Across the reporting stations, precipitation ranged from 0.22 inches in Eau Claire to 1.46 inches in Green Bay. Average temperatures were 3 to 5 degrees below normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 70 to 76 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 51 to 58 degrees. On average, there were 4.7 days suitable for fieldwork. If you are interested in further weather data, please reference the following sites:

<http://www.noaa.gov/>
<http://www.aos.wisc.edu/~sco/>
<http://www.cocorahs.org/>
<http://www.weather.gov/>

Corn in dough stage was reported at 58 percent complete statewide, an increase of 19 percentage points from the previous week. Across the state, 7 percent of corn was reported to be dented. Many growers reported that the recent moisture helped corn development, but it is still behind schedule. Corn maturity was reported at various stages across the state.

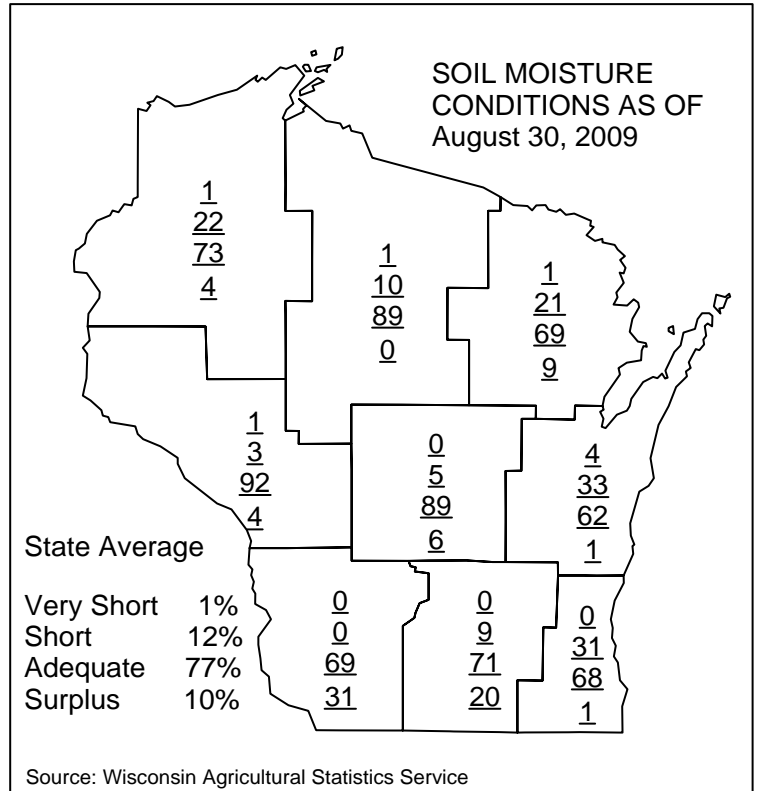
Soybeans setting pods were reported as 93 percent complete, and 2 percent of the soybean leaves were turning color around the state. Recent rains continue to help soybean pods fill out. Some growers reported that soybean pods were increasing in number, while others stated that pod counts were lower due to several overcast days during the growing season. Soybean pods were formed well enough in some parts of the state that spraying was no longer economical. White mold was beginning to show more in soybean fields due to the frequent precipitation around the state.

Combining **oats** for grain continued and is up to 94 percent complete around the state, an increase of 16 percentage points from the previous week.

Third cutting **hay** harvest has reached 73 percent complete across the state, up 18 percentage points from last week. The recent moisture has slowed the drying of hay. While many were working on third cutting hay, some were happy with their early fourth crop yields. Fourth cutting hay harvest was reported as 6 percent complete.

Apples in the West Central and Central districts were reported to be looking good and ready for harvest.

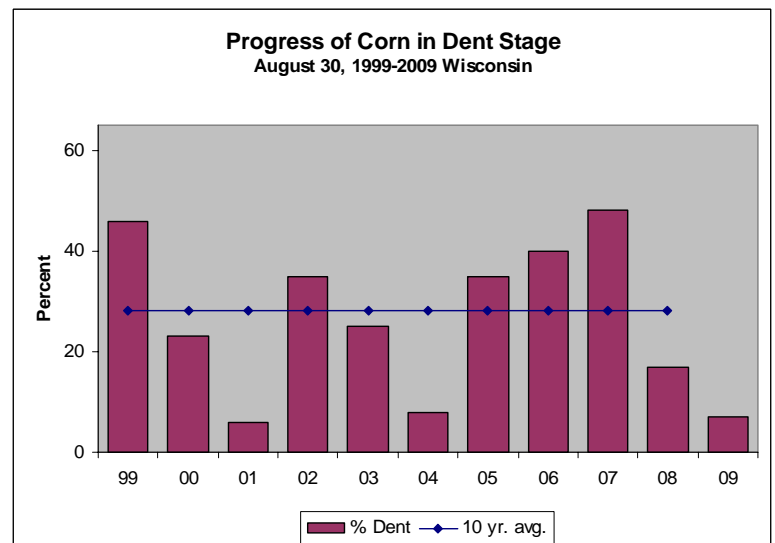
Tobacco harvest has begun with huge yields in the South Central district.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of August 30, 2009

Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn	2	8	25	49	16
Soybeans	1	7	24	51	17
Pasture	3	10	29	48	10

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.



Wisconsin Crop Progress, August 30, 2009

Crop and percent of acreage	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This year	Last year	5-year average
Corn in dough stage	31	54	35	65	46	36	87	73	36	58	59	69
Corn in dent stage	2	0	7	10	12	2	6	10	2	7	17	30
Soybeans setting pods	83	97	99	96	83	89	98	97	82	93	97	96
Oats harvested	94	83	86	97	94	93	100	100	100	94	97	98
Third cutting hay	67	70	82	80	70	78	64	74	62	73	81	71
Fourth cutting hay	4	7	5	9	7	5	5	8	2	6	17	6

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

CHIPPEWA-J.C.: Corn and soybeans are looking better after the rains replenished topsoil moisture. Small grain harvest is complete.

WASHBURN-P.H.: Alfalfa harvest is slow due to frequent rains. Corn is late and just starting to dimple some kernels. Soybean aphids were sprayed by some farmers and those who did not spray, aphid counts are high but soybean pods are formed well enough now that spraying is not economical. Frequent light rains the last few weeks have been good conditions for white mold which is showing up more in some soybean fields.

CLARK-A.K.: Since we have had some rain the crops are doing well. Crops are late and need warm weather and a late frost to mature. Third crop hay yield and quality is above average. Small grain yields were good to excellent with yields from 60 to 100 bushels per acre.

VILAS-L.K.: We still need more rain.

SHAWANO-T.B.: Crops are looking very good, but will need some heat to finish out the season. Late cuttings of hay look very good with the recent rain. Scattered frost was predicted late in the weekend which could be disastrous considering how far the row crops have to go to finish off the season.

BUFFALO-R.S.: Frost is not too far off. Very little corn is in dough stage. Soybean pods are about half filled. Lots of third crop hay was made. We received 7.5 inches of rain in August. Some farmers are seeding alfalfa, rye and wheat.

MONROE-P.B.: Soybeans are beginning to show more leaf disease due to various stresses. Corn ears appear to be filling nicely with good yield potential for silage and grain.

PORTAGE-J.W.: Farmers are working on third cutting hay with average yields. Corn and soybeans are slow to mature. We need more warm weather. Snapbeans, sweet corn and potato harvest continues with good yields.

CALUMET-B.L.: Green is a nice color to see again. Crops have responded to the two weeks of moisture. We now need heat units to mature our behind-normal maturity corn and soybean crops.

KEWAUNEE-T.S.: This past week saw some cooler weather, and over the past weekend, some rain. For any late summer planted alfalfa, the rain came at a good time. However, while the rain will help the pods fill out on the soybeans, it will not do much to help the corn. There are

spots in corn fields where the stalks are starting to dry up, mainly due to how dry it has been. The cobs are pretty much all filled out. What will be needed more than anything else in the coming few weeks will be warmer temperatures. This would go a long way in helping to mature both the soybeans and corn. An early frost would be devastating right now. Third crop hay harvest is continuing, and by later this week, some fourth crop harvest may be starting.

GRANT-R.R.: In southern Grant county, you could measure the precipitation for the year in yards instead of inches. The crops look very good with all the rain, but it is next to impossible to get dry hay put up without getting rained on. It is also very hard to get any fieldwork done due to the ground being so muddy all the time.

IOWA-S.M.: White mold in soybeans is taking it's toll. We will have huge yield loss due to it. Corn and alfalfa look good.

DODGE-G.R.: More rain during the week halted fieldwork. Third cutting alfalfa for haylage is being made, but attempts at baling are hampered by heavy morning dew. Cooler than normal temperatures are preventing maturity of corn and soybeans. Few ears on corn are denting. Alfalfa fields which are not yet cut are blossoming. Yields on hayfields are less than expected and are below last year's third cutting.

KENOSHA-R.R.: Crops look good, but the growing season is behind two weeks. Need hot weather to get season back on track.



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This report has been made possible through the cooperative efforts of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, and the National Weather Service.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on August 30, 2009

City	Temperature						Growing degree days (modified base 50) 1/		Precipitation				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal *	March 1 to August 29	March 1 to August 29 normal*	Last week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	75	52	80	47	64	-3	1964	2077	0.22	12.08	-0.37	18.39	-4.31
Green Bay	71	51	78	47	61	-5	1809	1938	1.46	8.76	-1.54	19.20	-0.80
La Crosse	76	56	80	51	66	-4	2234	2325	0.53	13.25	1.10	22.59	-0.46
Madison	73	56	80	47	64	-3	2076	2261	0.36	8.72	-3.22	25.47	2.11
Milwaukee	70	58	82	53	64	-5	2064	n.a.	1.00	10.21	-0.65	24.28	0.48

1/Formula used: GDD = (daily maximum (86°) + daily minimum (50°))/2-50°; where 86° is used if the maximum exceeds 86° and 50° is used if the minimum falls below 50°. *Normal based on 1971-2000 data. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>>. n.a. = not available. T = trace. Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.